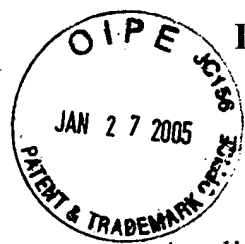


DFW



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney's Docket Number: 00215 IP

Applicant: Lawrence Bishop
Serial No.: 10/725,172
Filed: 12/01/2003
For: **IMPROVED PET RAMP**

TO: THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS
WASHINGTON, DC

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the **RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED**

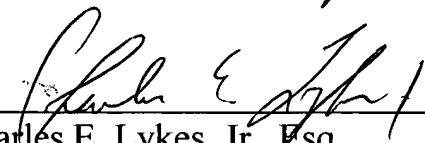
JULY 22, 2004 and all related papers for the invention by Lawrence Bishop,

Applicant, entitled **IMPROVED PET RAMP** is, in accordance with 37 CFR §1.8,

being mailed, by regular United States mail, to:

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

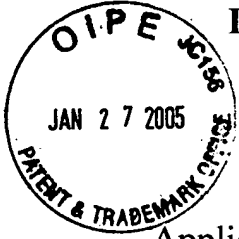
this 24th day of January, 2005.



Charles E. Lykes, Jr., Esq.
Reg. No. 30,083

1/24/2005

Date



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney's Docket Number: 00215 IP

Applicant: Lawrence Bishop
Serial No.: 10/725,172
Filed: 12/01/2003
For: **IMPROVED PET RAMP**

TO: THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
WASHINGTON, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED JULY 22, 2004

The Applicant, by and through the undersigned attorney, hereby responds to the office action mailed July 22, 2004, and would show:

1. This office action response is filed within the allowable six months response time, after payment extension fees, since January 22 was a Saturday and January 23 was a Sunday. Accompanying this response is a petition and declaration seeking rebate or credit of the extension fee based upon a military service of the undersigned attorney.

2. Drawing corrections are submitted here with and are intended to hear all defects noted by the Examiner. They corrections have been undertaken in good faith to correct all such problems and they applicant respectively requests that any further informality or inconsistency in the drawings be handled informally, telephonically, or with a notice of informality with a shortened response time.

3. The applicant further makes the following amendments to the specification in response to the Examiner's comments regarding the use of certain reference numerals on page 7 of the specification. In particular, all references to "bed" on page 7 should be amended to specify reference numeral "(100)" and all references to "mattress" on page 7 should be amended to specify reference numeral "(101)".

4. Amended claims responsive to the Examiner's comments are attached and appended hereto. With respect to the Examiner's comments with respect to claim 4, claims 1 through 4 have been canceled and new claim 17 has been written to include all intervening limitations of claims 1 and 4. Since claims 2 and 3 were alternative forms of satisfying one of the elements of original claim 1, claims 2 and 3 have been rewritten and proposed as claims 18 and 19 which are dependent on claim 17. Similarly, with respect to the Examiner's comments with respect to claim 8, claims 5 through 8 have been cancelled and claim 8 has been rewritten as claim 20 which includes the limitations of claims 5 and claim 8. Since claims 6 and 7 were alternative means of achieving an element of original claim 5, they are rewritten and proposed as claims 21 and 22, which are dependents of claim 20. No further argument regarding the claims is anticipated. Applicant respectfully submits that the proposed claims, as amended, are within both the spirit and the scope of the Examiner's comments with respect to the claims objections and place

the application in condition for allowance. Applicant would request an opportunity to address any remaining objections or any item which may have been overlooked or not corrected in accordance with the Examiner's specifications by means of informal communication, telephonic amendment, or a notice of informality with shortened period of time for response.

5. Applicant has paid the extension fee for 3 months extension of the response time for a small entity. Applicant has further presented a petition to the Commissioner for rebate or waiver of the extension fee in light of the military commitment of the undersigned resulting from his mobilization as a member of the United States Army Reserve and deployment to Iraq. It is respectfully requested in said petition that the extension fee be either rebated or credited to the Notice of Allowance. It is respectfully requested that such petition and all attachments be incorporated and considered in support of this request.

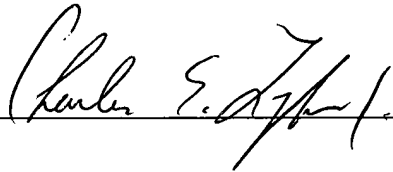
6. In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that the application is in condition for allowance and would request an opportunity to informally address any remaining error, shortcoming, deficiency, or requirement in the file or otherwise noted by the Examiner.

Wherefore, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner enter a Notice of Allowance with respect to the amended claims, or, alternatively, communicate any further requirements for deficiencies to the applicant by means of informal

communication, notice of informality, or by means of telephonic interview with the undersigned.

Respectfully Submitted.

Charles E. Lykes, Jr.
Counsel for Applicant
Reg. No. 30, 083
501 South Fort Harrison Avenue
Suite 101
Clearwater, Florida 33756-5317
Phone: 727-441-8308
facsimile: 727-442-8562
Email: celykes@msn.com



A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Charles E. Lykes, Jr.", is written over a horizontal line.